Children’s Rights Activity  KS1/2

Curriculum Links

Citizenship:

Unit 01: Taking part - developing skills of communication and participation

Unit 07: Children's rights - human rights

Unit 08: How do rules and laws affect me?

Literacy:

EN1 Speaking & Listening

EN2 Reading

Objectives

To gain an understanding of what Children’s Rights are, why we need them and how these rights go hand in hand with responsibilities.

Overview

This activity is designed to outline some of the main Children’s Rights, as written in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Pupils learn about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and that it applies to all children, whoever or wherever they are.

This activity has been designed for use by pupils in small groups, however it may be more appropriate for younger pupils to collaborate as a class, guided by their teacher.
Preparation

• Sets of the “Rights” and “Responsibilities” cards should be printed, cut out and laminated prior to the activity

Instructions

• Introduce the activity by using the “Introduction” section below

• Split class into groups

• Give each group a set of “Rights” cards and a set of “Responsibilities” cards

• Explain to pupils that they need to work in groups, helping each other and including every member of their “team”

• Explain to pupils that they should read each of the “Rights” cards in turn and find the “Responsibilities” card which matches that right

• When the groups have finished their task, they should resume as a class to discuss the matching pairs of “Rights” and “Responsibilities”

Extension Activities

• Pupils could work with their teacher to produce a class version of “Children’s Rights, Children’s Responsibilities”. Pupils could produce a poster listing the “Rights” they have as members of the class (for example –not to be bullied or intimidated) and the subsequent “Responsibilities” they have (for example- not to bully or intimidate other members of the class).

• Print a copy of the “Children’s Rights” list to display in class. Pupils could add relevant images to the poster to help them identify and remember their rights and responsibilities.
Introduction

Everybody wants different things.

We may want toys or sweets.

But there is a difference between what we want and what we need.

What kind of things do we need to survive? (Food, drink, shelter, clothing etc.)

These needs are every important to everybody and because they are so important everyone should be entitled to them. –We call these things Human Rights.

These Human Rights are laid down as law in Britain.

What do we mean when we say that something is law? (it is very important, government have set laws, laws are “rules”, we can be punished if we break the law)

There are similar rights set out especially for Children, under the UN (United Nations) Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child tells everyone about the rights that children and young people (under 18 years old) have. They tell people that children have special rights, regardless of who they are, what they look like, where they live and what they believe.

These rights and very important to us all. They help to make us free people. But these rights go with responsibilities (things that we need to make sure we do in return for these rights). For example if we have a right to relax and play without fear of bullying or intimidation, we have the responsibility to make sure that we allow others to relax and play, and to not bully or intimidate them.